cervix uteri by cauterization is, Dr. Eve remarks, that it allows the patient to take active exercise in the open air regularly and systematically, which is essential to the restoration of her general health and strength, and without attention to which, local affections, generally, are not treated to the best advantage.

"When," says Dr. Eve, "the patient's general health is in all respects good, her sufferings altogether local—local applications are found sufficient alone, without general treatment; but," he adds, "there are very few cases of long standing without some complication, demanding medical prescription. The perfection of practice in these affections consists in the happy blending of medical and surgical treatment. Our limits will not allow us to say much on the subject of the medical treatment. It consists in the adoption of such measures as may be indicated for the removal of sympathetic or concurrent diseases in other organs, and the improvement of the general health of the patient, as through the blood, and in the administration of those remedial agents which may, through the system, act locally on the uterus. For the fulfilment of the first indication, may be called in requisition tonics of all kinds, especially the chalybeates and vegetable bitters, mercurials, laxatives, antacids, nervine stimulants, the regulation of diet, of exercise, and indeed whatever is calculated to improve health and increase strength."

Although our èxperience has not led us to believe that inflammation and ulceration of the os and cervix uteri are of quite so frequent occurrence, and, consequently, that their pathological importance is near so great, as is asserted by Dr. Eve, we have, nevertheless, perused the report before us with no little pleasure; we have been much gratified at the general good sense, and sound practical views which pervade it, and the gentlemanly tone observed by the author in commenting upon the views of those who hold different views from him, as well in respect to the facts themselves as to the pathological and the therapeutical deductions which legitimately flow from them. D. F. C.

ART. XXIV.—*Observations on Malarial Fever.* By JOSEPH JONES, A. M., M. D., Professor of Physics and Natural Theology in the University of Georgia, Athens; Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy in the Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, etc. etc. 8vo. pp 84. [From the *Southern Medical Journal*, 1858.]

IF we apprehend correctly the object of these observations, it is to present a series of cases of malarial fever, in which such an exhibit and analysis of the morbid phenomena of the disease is attempted, as will show the derangement of each of the several normal constituents of the human organism, and the changed relation it occupies with each of the other constituents—the disturbance in the relation of the vital with the physical and chemical forces of the body, and, also, a comparison of the several morbid phenomena with the meteorological, geological, and topographical conditions in which the several patients are placed. To present, in other words, in each stage and change of the disease, the condition of the blood, and of the urine, bile, and other secretions and excretions, as determined chemically and microscopically, with the state of the animal temperature, and of the functions of all the organs of the body during life, and with an accurate investigation by chemical analysis and microscopic examination after death of the different tissues and organs, and of their respective products. Taking note at the same time of all the external conditions under which the patients are placed, prior to, and at the time of their seizure, and during their treatment; with the changes produced in the condition of the functions of the organism, and in the state of the blood, and of the different secretions and excretions, by the remedies prescribed.

Dr. Jones has thus laid out for himself a task, as magnificent and important as it is difficult and laborious. A task, which he himself admits, no one investigator can have either the time, the opportunity, or the requisite talents faithfully and satisfactorily to accomplish, and which must be left to the united labours of a host of observers having at their disposal all the circumstances essential for its successful prosecution.

If, Dr. Jones remarks, it were undertaken by a corps of intelligent, honest, and industrious observers, acting with zeal and unity, while each devoted himself to the careful examination of a single branch in the vast field of inquiry suggested, the results for medical science would be of the most momentous character. It would be made in time to rank among the exact sciences—and instead of the frequent discrepancy now often observed to exist between theory and practice, we should have harmony, and in the mind of the physician doubt and uncertainty would give way to confidence, derived from a clearer insight into the nature of the morbid conditions to be prevented or overcome in each case of disease, either threatened or present, and the means by which its prophylaxis or cure is most certainly to be accomplished.

Such, if not expressed in his exact words, are the anticipations entertained by the author of the benefits to be conferred on pathology and therapeutics by a series of investigations such as he suggests. We admit that from these much light could not fail to be shed upon the pathology of disease, and many important data derived upon which to base a correct and systematic therapeutics.

Investigations of the scope and character of those proposed by Dr. Jones, will, however, not only require numerous observers for their successful prosecution, but time and opportunity for their multiplication in all the varied circumstances under which disease may present itself, and, also, for their careful collation in order to correct the mistakes which are so liable to creep into the examination of questions of so complicated a character as those connected with the true relationship between the various abnormal states of the several fluids of the body, and the particular abnormal conditions of the different tissues, organs, and functions, pathognomonic of the existing disease. Still, vast, tedious, and difficult as is the proposed series of investigations, there is no reason why we should despair of their final accomplishment. Let each one lend, as Dr. Jones has done, his aid, and thus, from the contributions furnished by many labourers, much may be obtained. Although we cannot, with Dr. J., hope that, by the results alone of these investigations, however carefully and faithfully executed, medicine will be rendered an exact science, still, we are willing to admit that the influence they are calculated to exercise in respect to it will be of a most beneficial and momentous character.

We cannot anticipate from the most extended, exact, and multiplied series of microscopic examinations and chemical analyses of the fluids and solids of the body during life, and subsequent to death, any satisfactory revelations in respect to the nature and cause of disease, and the means best adapted to stay its progress, and conduct it to a favourable termination. As Dr. J. correctly remarks, the proper and regular exercise of the vital force of the human organism is associated with a certain constitution and condition of the matter of which that organism is composed. So that, whatever interferes with the normal constitution and condition of the material elements of the system must necessarily interfere also with the normal operation of the vital force—permitting a further and more extensive derangement to occur in the chemical condition, and relative proportions and reactions of the material elements of the organism—in the physical forces with which it is endowed, and in the manifestations of its intellectual and moral functions. We dare not deny that the aberrations in the vital and nervous actions which constitute the most prominent of the phenomena of disease may, in many instances, be the result of preceding derangements in the physical condition of the blood and of the organic matter of which the body is composed: under such circumstances, microscopic and chemical investigations will, it is reasonable to suppose, lend us valuable aid in our inquiries into the nature and starting-point of the morbid actions that present themselves; but, it is to be recollected that there are many facts which would seem to indicate the first impression of the morbific agent to be made, in the majority of instances, primarily upon the nervous system, disturbing first, the vital forces of the system, and, secondarily, the functions of the various organs, and the condition of the solids and fluids which enter into their composition. Here, it is evident, that our microscopic and chemical investigations—however much light they may throw upon the extent and character of the results of diseased action, are entirely valueless as guides to the nature and operation of the actual cause of the morbid conditions that are detected.

In all our investigations into the pathology of disease, we must keep prominently in mind the fact that the human organism is endowed with vitality—and that by this vitality the action upon it of whatever morbific agents it may be subjected to, is, to a certain extent, modified and controlled. That even in those cases in which we have the strongest reasons for attributing disease to the introduction into the fluids or solids of the body of foreign matters, it is still, nevertheless, true, that the derangements throughout the system to which these give rise—in other words, the entire series of morbid phenomena do not result from the change produced by them in the organic condition of the solids, or the modification they occasion in the crasis of the fluids, but from the disturbance they directly or indirectly cause in the operation of the vital forces. It is not inaccurate, therefore, to assert that, in all cases, disease is the result of abnormal impressions upon the nervous system, causing aberrations to a greater or less extent in its actions; aberrations of the nature of which we can learn nothing by subjecting any one or all the fluids or tissues of the body to microscopic or chemical examination.

The observations of Dr. Jones, as detailed in the publication before us, relate chiefly to the condition of the urine in malarial fever—compared with the state of the skin, the pulse, the respiration, the temperature of the surface, and of the atmosphere, and with the several stages and periods of the disease, and the nature of the treatment pursued. They indicate a commendable amount of industry and habits of cautious investigation in the author. They may be consulted with profit, notwithstanding it would be premature to adduce any general conclusions from so limited and imperfect a series of cases.

D. F. C.

Art. XXV.—*Pathology and Treatment of the Paralysis of Motion.* By J. P. Batchelder, M.D., New York. 8vo. pp. 62. 1858.

We are not very positive that we perfectly comprehend, even in its general outlines, much less in its entire details, the pathology of paralysis as laid down by Dr. Batchelder in the essay before us. Paralysis, he defines to be "the symptom of a disease which mainly affects the voluntary muscles, or the muscles of animal life. The non-communication of the appropriate stimulus to these muscles by the mind constitutes the disease of which paralysis is the symptom."

So far as we are aware, paralysis of motion can result from only one of two causes: 1st. From a simple interruption of the nervous influence—an obstruction or destruction of the road by which the changes leading to sensation travel in the one direction, from the circumference to the centre; and the mandates of volition in the other direction, from the centre to the circumference—that is, a simple interruption, or a complete breaking up of the connection between the nervous centre and the paralyzed muscles; or 2dly. From such a change in the condition of the paralyzed muscles as renders them incapable of feeling or responding to the impulse of the will.

The muscles, when thrown into inactivity from either of these causes, become atrophied and more or less modified in structure, in consequence of which paralysis of motion may continue long after its primary cause has been removed or ceased to operate—the motive power of the affected muscles being impaired as well as their subordination to the control of the will.

Dr. Batchelder would seem to believe that the persistence of the paralysis of motion, after the removal or cessation of its primary cause, is not due simply to the change in the organization and physiological condition of the inactive